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ENERGY DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

No. 6370—BT (Expr.)-21/2013-En.

The 7th August 2013

SUBJECT—Dedicated Feeders for Agriculture and Pisciculture

1. Background :

Odisha is one of the States where majority of the population are dependent on agriculture. In order to develop the agrarian economy of the State, the Government of Odisha has decided to provide Dedicated Electrical Feeders for Agriculture as well as Pisciculture. Unlike other agriculturally developed States like Punjab & Haryana, most parts of Odisha depend on rain-fed crops which are the backbone of rural economy. Hence, in order to bring more and more landscape into irrigation fold, the concept of dedicated feeders in agriculture sector has been developed. As per the statistics, presently less than 2% of total energy consumed in the State is used in agricultural sector of the State. To promote agriculture and ancillary activities, special policy measures are being adopted by the State Government to increase irrigation coverage. Several thousand shallow tubewells, deep borewells and river lift irrigation are currently operating, mostly through individual farmers and some through Pani Panchayats. Such areas have witnessed large scale transformation in cropping pattern and significantly contributed to increased crop production in the State.

Considering the growth opportunities and potential of such irrigation sources, the Government has decided to set up large number of deep borewells for lift irrigation points in the State by extending subsidy. Reliable and quality power supply will be essential for maximizing the benefits of this investment. Therefore, Government has decided to take up dedicated feeders in areas having high concentration of such irrigation sources. Odisha being a costal State, a large number of people are also engaged in Pisciculture. Pisciculture being a profitable business creating self-employment for the unemployed youth, the Government of Odisha has launched several programmes for Pisciculture development. Several clusters have been identified by the Fisheries Department where large number of fishermen and entrepreneurs are practising intensive Pisciculture and Prawn Culture. This requires continuous, reliable and quality electricity for maximizing fish and prawn production,

processing and storage. Such facilities will ensure high value addition and provide backward integration which will go a long way in boosting production as well as processing. Keeping this in mind, the Fisheries Department has suggested for putting in place good electricity connectivity and infrastructure in identified clusters.

In view of the above and after careful consideration of the proposal, the State Cabinet in the 35th meeting held on 25-7-2013, has approved the new Scheme called "Installation of Dedicated Feeders for Agriculture and Fishery Sectors" with an investment of Rs. 1,000 crore from the State Budget over a period of four years commencing from Financial Year 2013-2014 to 2016-2017.

2. Scope of the Scheme :

Dedicated Feeders meant for agriculture and pisciculture will be constructed in the existing clusters having good numbers of L.I./borewell and shallow tubewell points as well as in upcoming clusters. This will make the project cost effective. These feeders are further expected to make best utilization of load at a stable voltage during off-peak hours. District Collectors in consultation with the Distribution Companies, Water Resource, Agriculture, Fisheries & Animal Resources Development Departments shall identify such feeders with adequate justification.

The length of 11 KV trunk lines feeding to the clusters shall be limited to 30 kms. Schematic line diagram from nearest 33/11 Substation up to end point of the feeder, showing the spur line to the L.I./Borewell/Shallow tubewell points will be indicated along with the cost estimate. Upgradation of the source 33/11 KV Grid Substations including feeding lines shall also be taken up wherever necessary.

Efforts would be made to supply powers to the agriculture feeder during the off-peak hours for specific time period of at least 6–8 hours in a day while all attempts would be made to supply power round-the-clock to the fishery feeders. The power supply through the dedicated feeder shall not be utilised for other purpose like domestic, commercial, etc.

3. Implementing/Nodal Agency :

Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited (OPTCL) a State Public Sector Undertaking having expertise in electrical transmission projects will act as the Implementing/Nodal Agency for implementation of the project. 2.5% of project cost will be made available to O.P.T.C.L. towards the project management cost.

4. Cost Estimate :

Considering the design structure of dedicated feeders, each feeder will have a length of about 30 Kms. for feeding to the cluster. Appropriate arrangements will be put in place in the 33/11 KV Substations, e.g. 11 KV bay and VCBs, metering, etc. The tentative investment cost is estimated at Rs. 1,000.00 crore to be spent over a period of 4 years.

5. Mode of Disbursement and Re-payment :

Government of Odisha will release the funds as grant for the purpose to the implementing agency, i.e. Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited (OPTCL) for implementation of the project.

6. Funding Mechanism :

The scheme envisages investment of Rs. 1,000.00 crore to be spent over a period of 4 years from Financial Year 2013-2014 to 2016-2017 as follows with budgetary support of Government of Odisha—

Financial Year 2013-2014	Rs. 150.00 crore
Financial Year 2014-2015 to 2016-2017	Rs. 850.00 crore

7. Project Formulation and Implementation :

The Distribution Company shall prepare Detailed Project Reports in consultation with the District Administration of their respective jurisdiction and submit the same to O.P.T.C.L.. O.P.T.C.L. shall scrutinise the same and place it before the Hon'ble Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission (OERC) for approval. The D.P.Rs. shall also be submitted to the Government for sanction of funds.

O.P.T.C.L. will handle the bid management and will engage a competent Project Management Consultant (PMC) from amongst the C.P.S.Us. The scope under the contract shall cover contract management, Monitoring of the execution of the work, Documentation of Work, Certification for Payment etc.

8. Project Monitoring Mechanism :

The Project Monitoring Mechanism at pre-implementation stage and post implementation stage is the responsibility of Government of Odisha. Hence, multi stage control and review will be made at different levels, viz. by the Nodal Agency, by the Government in Energy Department and by a Steering Committee to be constituted to oversee the implementation of the project.

A Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Commissioner-*cum*-Secretary, Energy with representatives from Finance Department, P. & C. Department, Director (Agriculture), Director (Horticulture), Director (Fisheries), M.D. (O.L.I.C.), M.D./C.E.O. of D.I.S.C.O.Ms, representative of O.P.T.C.L. Shri S. K. Jena, former Member, O.E.R.C. and Shri A. K. Tripathy, former Director General, C.P.R.I. will be constituted for monitoring the entire project and provide necessary guidance for effective implementation of the project.

9. Asset Management Mechanism :

Assets created under the Project would be owned by Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited (OPTCL) and it will be handed over to D.I.S.C.O.Ms. for Operation and Maintenance only. A tripartite agreement will be signed amongst the State Government, O.P.T.C.L. and D.I.S.C.O.Ms. for the purpose. Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission will approve the O & M cost of the assets in each year on application by the Distribution Companies while approving their Annual Revenue Requirement (ARR). Further, assets created under the Scheme and used by the D.I.S.C.O.M. can neither be leased nor hypothecated nor any lien be created on them by D.I.S.C.O.Ms.

10. Third Party Quality Assurance :

Nodal Agency (OPTCL) shall appoint Third Party Independent Inspecting Agency, preferably from amongst C.P.S.Us. for Inspection and quality assurance.

11. Power to remove difficulties :

If any difficulty arises on the interpretation of any of the provisions of this notification, the clarification(s)/decision of the Secretary to Government, Department of Energy, GoO shall be final.

By order of the Governor

P. K. JENA

Commissioner-*cum*- Secretary to Government